

**State and County Central Committees
(Political Party Committees) – Q&A**

December 11, 2007, February 8, 2008, and June 3, 2008 Elections

1. *When is a pre-election statement triggered by a political party committee?*

A: A pre-election report is required if the committee makes contributions or independent expenditures totaling \$500 or more to support or oppose **any** candidates, ballot measures, or committees during the pre-election reporting period. A statement is also required if the political party committee receives contributions totaling \$1,000 or more during the reporting period.

2. *Our committee filed a pre-election statement on January 24 in connection with the February 5 state primary election. What period should the committee's first pre-election statement cover in connection with the June 3 state primary election?*

A: The period covered by any statement begins on the day after the closing date of the last statement filed. If your committee filed a pre-election statement (Form 450 or 460) for the period January 1 through January 19, 2008, the committee's first pre-election statement (for the June 3 state primary election) will cover January 20 through March 17, 2008.

3. *A political party committee made a \$5,000 contribution to a committee primarily formed to support a state measure. Must the committee file Form 497 within 10 days?*

A: Yes, the committee must file a \$5,000 Report.

4. *If the committee makes an \$8,000 contribution to a committee supporting two state ballot measures, must the committee file a Form 497 within 10 days?*

A: Yes, the committee must file a \$5,000 Report unless before the filing deadline, it received a written notice from the committee supporting the measures saying that no more than \$5,000 would be spent on a single one.

5. *If the committee makes a \$5,000 contribution to another general purpose committee that is supporting state ballot measures, must the committee file a Form 497 within 10 days?*

A: A \$5,000 Report is triggered if:

- a. The committee knows the \$5,000 will be used to support or oppose a single state ballot measure; or

b. The receiving committee has reported online making contributions or expenditures exceeding \$100,000 in the past 12 months to support or oppose a state ballot measure that has not yet been on the ballot. See Regulation 18466.

6. *If the committee makes a \$5,000 contribution to a primarily formed committee supporting a state ballot measure during the late reporting period and files a late contribution report within 24 hours, must the committee also file a \$5,000 Report within 10 days?*

A: As long as the late contribution report contains all of the information required to be disclosed on the \$5,000 Report (i.e., the late contribution made as well as contributions of \$100 or more received since the committee's last report), the late contribution report will fulfill both filing requirements.

7. *Must a committee that files the online independent expenditure report within 24 hours during the 90 days prior to an election also file the Supplemental Independent Expenditure Report (Form 465)?*

A: Yes. The online independent expenditure report does not replace, but is in addition to, the supplemental independent expenditure report.

8. *Must a Supplemental Independent Expenditure Report (Form 465) be filed if an independent expenditure supports or opposes multiple candidates or measures?*

A: Yes, but only if \$1,000 or more was expended to support or oppose each measure in the independent expenditure. A separate Form 465 must be filed for each candidate and measure supported or opposed.

9. *A political party committee makes independent expenditures to support 1) a candidate for Assembly District 55 in the February 5, 2008 special run-off election; 2) a ballot measure on the February 5, 2008 primary election ballot, and 3) a candidate for County Supervisor in San Joaquin County on a June 3, 2008 ballot. When and where will the committee file Form 465?*

A: The committee must file a separate Form 465 for each candidate and measure as if it were primarily formed to support each of them. File Form 465 if the committee makes independent expenditures totaling \$1,000 or more to support or oppose a single candidate or measure during the following periods:

Assembly District 55 candidates (December 11 and February 5):

July 1 – Oct. 27, 2007, file Nov. 1

Oct. 28 – Nov. 24, 2007, file Nov. 29

Nov. 25 – Dec. 31, 2007, file Jan. 31 (if candidate lost in December)

Nov. 25 – Jan. 19, 2008, file Jan. 24 (candidate in Feb. 5 run-off)

Jan. 20 – June 30, 2008, file July 31 (candidate in Feb. 5 run-off)

File with Secretary of State (original and one copy and, if required, electronically), County of Los Angeles (two copies in 2007, one copy in 2008), and the committee's county of domicile (two copies in 2007, no requirement in 2008).

State ballot measures (February 5):

July 1 – Sept. 30, 2007, file Oct. 31

Oct. 1 – Dec. 31, 2007, file Jan. 7

Jan. 1 – Jan. 19, 2008, file Jan. 24

Jan. 20 – June 30, 2008, file July 31

File with Secretary of State (original and one copy and, if required, electronically), County of Los Angeles (two copies in 2007, one copy in 2008), City and County of San Francisco (two copies in 2007, one copy in 2008), and the committee's county of domicile (two copies in 2007, no requirement in 2008.)

Candidates and ballot measures (June 3):

Jan. 1 – March 17, 2008, file March 24

March 18 – May 17, 2008, file May 22

May 18 – June 30, 2008, file July 31

File with the filing officer(s) who would receive the committee's statements if the committee were primarily formed to support or oppose the candidate or measure. In the example above, Form 465 will be filed with the County of San Joaquin (original and one copy).

The filing location addresses can be found on the FPPC web site at the following link: <http://www.fppc.ca.gov/index.html?id=19>

[NOTE: As of January 1, 2008, general purpose committees are no longer required to file with their county of domicile.]